

Please amend the specification as follows:

Delete par. 98 and replace it with:

[0098] Thus, in the skeleton, concentration of each non-MPD element in the off tie-line style can vary continuously and independent of the other non-MPD elements within the range between  $M_{n,T}$  (when  $R_n = 0$ ) and  $M_{n,s}$  (when  $R_n=1$ ). When for each non-MPD element  $R_n=0$ , then the skeleton composition is identical to the basic method, and the infiltrant composition will also be the same as the basic method infiltrant. When for each non MPD element,  $R_n=1$ , then the skeleton composition is identical to the near tie-line method, and the infiltrant composition will also be the same as the near tie-line infiltrant.